## Rebuttal to Argument In Favor of Measure

03/18/16 15:53 CLK

Jeez, the supporting argument reads like an extortion note—keep paying or else the severe cuts you'll suffer will be devastating.

Come on, give us a break.

Thank you for voting!

The UUT was enacted to mitigate the effects of the recession. Now that property values have returned to former highs and there are hundreds of residential units currently in the planning process, the city will be reaping a windfall. This is because in addition to normal revenue levels, the current UUT won't expire for another three years.

If we don't let it expire in 2019 as intended, we're going to be in big trouble. All of these wonderful taxes, fees, and assessments that have been enacted lately are killing the golden goose—our crucial business sector.

Despite a booming economy, our city is struggling to attract and retain good businesses. Consider Hayward's largest for-profit employer, bus manufacturer Gillig. This celebrated company has given up on Hayward and is moving to Livermore—our nearby neighbor that has no utility tax, no emergency facilities tax, and a lower sales tax rate.

There's a whole lot more for you to consider, but limited space here doesn't allow for it. Therefore, if you're still inclined to think that extending the UUT at this time is a good thing, please visit <a href="https://www.HeyHayward.com">www.HeyHayward.com</a> and review additional information so that at least you'll be making the most informed choice.

Lawrence Johnson, Hayward resident, property owner, and businessman